

MONTANA ECONOMY AT A GLANCE

January 2003

UNEMPLOYMENT BY COUNTY

Not seasonally adjusted

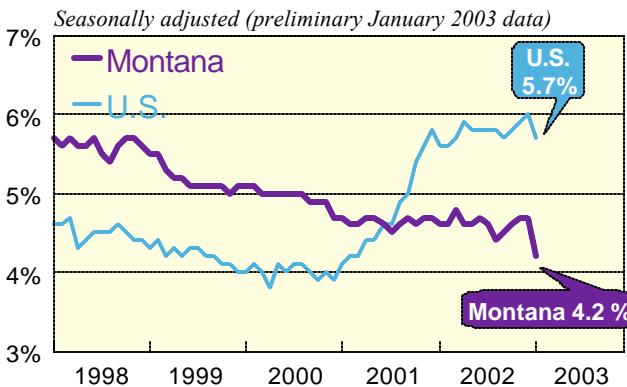
	Jan. 2002	Jan. 2003*
UNITED STATES	6.3%	6.5%
MONTANA	5.7%	5.3%
Cascade **	5.1%	4.8%
Missoula **	5.0%	4.7%
Yellowstone **	4.3%	3.8%
Beaverhead	4.2%	4.5%
Big Horn	17.6%	19.3%
Blaine	8.2%	6.2%
Broadwater	5.7%	5.5%
Carbon	5.5%	4.4%
Carter	2.2%	2.1%
Chouteau	3.8%	3.3%
Custer	4.8%	4.6%
Daniels	3.1%	3.0%
Dawson	3.6%	3.0%
Deer Lodge	7.1%	6.2%
Fallon	3.9%	2.9%
Fergus	6.5%	7.0%
Flathead	7.5%	6.7%
Gallatin	2.7%	2.9%
Garfield	3.7%	3.8%
Glacier	12.6%	12.1%
Golden Valley	6.1%	7.4%
Granite	8.8%	7.6%
Hill	4.0%	3.8%
Jefferson	6.3%	4.7%
Judith Basin	7.2%	6.2%
Lake	10.8%	7.8%
Lewis & Clark	5.2%	4.7%
Liberty	3.5%	3.5%
Lincoln	13.2%	17.2%
McCone	2.5%	4.1%
Madison	4.7%	5.6%
Meagher	8.5%	7.9%
Mineral	12.1%	10.4%
Musselshell	11.4%	7.8%
Park	6.0%	4.7%
Petroleum	3.6%	6.6%
Phillips	6.2%	6.1%
Pondera	5.1%	4.7%
Powder River	3.5%	4.2%
Powell	6.5%	5.9%
Prairie	6.3%	5.6%
Ravalli	6.6%	6.6%
Richland	5.3%	5.1%
Roosevelt	8.2%	7.6%
Rosebud	7.2%	6.7%
Sanders	11.1%	9.9%
Sheridan	5.3%	3.7%
Silver Bow	6.1%	5.7%
Stillwater	4.8%	3.2%
Sweet Grass	5.5%	2.8%
Teton	5.2%	4.1%
Toole	3.0%	2.3%
Treasure	5.1%	7.2%
Valley	4.9%	3.9%
Wheatland	7.6%	6.1%
Wibaux	2.6%	3.1%

*January 2003 rate preliminary

** Cascade=Great Falls MSA
 Missoula= Missoula MSA
 Yellowstone=Billings MSA

JANUARY 2003 HIGHLIGHTS

Unemployment

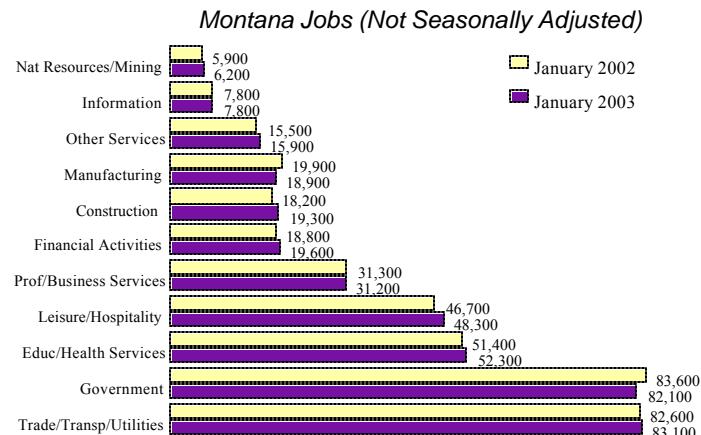


Montana's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate continues to be lower than the U.S. rate. The state's January unemployment of 4.2 percent was 1.5 percentage points lower than the nation's.

Earnings

Average weekly earnings for Montana's private sector production workers were up 3.2 percent over the year in January, outpacing the 2.4 percent over-the-year increase in U.S. inflation.

Nonag Payroll Employment



Montana's nonagricultural payroll employment was up about 3,000 jobs (0.8 percentage points) over the year in January. The largest over-the-year gains were in leisure & hospitality, construction, and educational & health services.

CHANGEOVER IN INDUSTRY CODING

Montana's industry coding has changed over to the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) effective with January 2003 industry data. (See *nonag Montana jobs graph* on this page and additional information on the back of this publication.)

For more information:

- Reference the article "NAICS in the new century" in the 1st quarter 2002 issue of our *Montana Employment and Labor Force Trends* publication available on our website.
- Call us and say you have a question about NAICS industry classification.

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INDUSTRY CLASSIFICATION HAS CHANGED FROM SIC TO NAICS

Old (SIC) industry coding system

Mining
Construction
Manufacturing
Transportation, Communications & Utilities
Trade
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate
Services
Government

New (NAICS) industry coding system

Natural Resources & Mining
Construction
Manufacturing
Trade, Transportation & Utilities
Information
Financial Activities
Professional & Business Services
Educational & Health Services
Leisure & Hospitality
Other Services
Government

You will notice industry classification changes beginning with January 2003 nonagricultural industry employment data because of the changeover from the Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) industry coding system to the North American Industry Classification (NAICS) system.

We believe you will find NAICS an improvement over SIC, but it will take some getting used to. Among the changes:

- Mining is now part of the **natural resources & mining** supersector, along with logging.

- Most trade is now part of the **trade, transportation & utilities** supersector which includes trade, transportation, warehousing and utilities. However, hotels & other lodging places and eating & drinking places are now part of the **leisure & hospitality** supersector.
- Most of communications has moved to the new **information** supersector.
- Services has been broken out into several supersectors.

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